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The \$1.4 billion deal: a victory, or a defeat?

By Boyce Richardson

Ever since the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement was forced on the James Bay Crees in the mid-1970s, it cannot be said that they have been treated generously by Canadian governments, provincial or federal.

As that deal was being signed, the \$16 billion James Bay Hydro Project was already being built in the centre of their traditional hunting territories. They had no alternative – sign, and get some money, or refuse to sign, get nothing and be overwhelmed by Western technology and culture.

So, reluctantly, they signed. For the next quarter of a century, the two governments dragged their heels even on implementing the deal they had forced on the Cree. Some parts were simply ignored.

The Crees were supposed to have priority in employment in their territory; they were supposed to have priority in the setting up of tourist camps; they were supposed to have priority over disposition of the hunting animals they had always depended on for food. To obtain any of these things, they had to go to court, repeatedly. But even if they won their case, as they usually did, measures were then taken to ensure that they lost.

The most egregious example of government bad faith came at the turn of the century. The Crees, tired of their hunting territories being clear cut by outside forest companies, obtained a court injunction from Judge Jean-Jacques Croteau, who declared the Quebec forest management regime to be unconstitutional in that it ignored the legally entrenched rights of the Crees. He ordered Quebec to rewrite its forest management process within six months.

The Quebec government, with the support of the companies, moved that Judge Croteau should be removed from the case. This obligingly happened, and the substitute judge found resoundingly for the government.

Such naked manipulation of the legal process had possibly never before happened in Canada. But it seems to have been the straw that broke the camel's back. Within five years the Crees caved in to pres-

sure to develop the (until then) sacred Rupert River.

This deal was designed to enable the Crees themselves to undertake the many provisions of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement that the government had simply not bothered to implement! Such is the trustworthiness of any deal signed by Canadian governments with Aboriginal people.

Now comes the news that the Crees have agreed to a deal with the federal government, which will pay them \$1.4 billion over 20 years, "to build up public health and security services, improve the Cree judicial system and develop the northern regional economy."

Of course, it is entirely up to the Crees to determine the course they follow. When the JBNQA was signed, it was obvious to many of us that the major impact would be the monetarization of the Cree economy.

The outside world had decided that they could not wait to get their hands on the riches in Cree territory. So today the grandchildren of the last generation of remarkable Cree-speaking hunters and trappers are living in posh new houses, running businesses, and are wired with every fancy technological contrivance known to man. For almost quarter of a century, outside powers have been taking an estimated \$5 billion worth of timber and electricity out of the Cree lands in return for a pittance.

There could, I suppose, have been a chance for their traditional culture, their remarkable knowledge of the biology of animals and of the bush, to have been used as the basis for a way of life different from that of the rest of Canada. One that is economically viable, culturally rewarding, and a model for relationships between Western technology and a hunting culture.

We did not ever consider that, except in the hunting and trapping provisions of the original Agreement, which, admittedly, allowed hunters to continue in the bush while technology was raging all around them. To that extent, one has to say a great opportunity has been lost.

for more Boyce Richardson go to:
www.magma.ca/~brich

GUEST EDITORIAL

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Cover Photos: Neil Diamond

Smarter than a ?



by
Sonny Orr

After scoring a dismal 75 per cent on an "Are you smarter than a fifth grader?" quiz, I resolved to relearn the things I studied (or thought I had) in school. It was a lot harder (it seemed) to answer questions back then, because we were just learning in school things about the rest of the world, things that which I'm sure many students will never experience in a lifetime.

Today, stretching my memory cells back to infancy is even harder as the decades slip by, making what I learned back then to be something nonexistent and useless.

Geography was always a favourite: just remember the capitals of the countries, what they depended on to live, what kind of animals and language, all the usual stuff. I liked Africa, having read a lot about it in books about Tarzan.

I figure I'm still an expert about it, so I did some research into what I retained from years of pouring over atlases, encyclopedias and globes. I discovered that much of what I was taught was mainly from colonialists' viewpoints.

Likewise, the names of the capital cities I remember have now been replaced with their true names. Countries changed too: Rhodesia is Zimbabwe, Bechuanaland is Botswana. No coincidence, the same thing happened in our own back yard: Paint Hills is Wemindji, Rupert's House is Waskaganish, and so on.

Biology was another item, like, how could that change over time? Well, when genes and genealogy meant family trees and whether or not you could forecast what your kids would look like, including vari-

ables such as the milkman (the milkman was an early riser and would deliver milk to your door step fresh from the dairy, really, no kidding), and the mailman (the mailman was someone who would deliver mail to your door, really, no kidding).

Science was still fixated with landing on the moon, and if anyone actually knew how a rocket would work, they would immediately be whisked away to work in some top secret lab for the good guys. Math, well math was trigonometry, who would ever need that?

Back then, what we learned in school is peanuts compared to what you could absorb today.

The funny thing is, you really need the education to get around. For example, who ever worried about whether or not your ID could be stolen and used to charge up a fortune on your newly acquired card? Back then, we worried about someone looking over your shoulder to cheat on exams. We used to have nerds who knew how to work computers, but today, a third grader can pump out a full-colour book in under an hour.

We changed when we wanted to, when we needed to, when we had to. We changed to survive.

Look at today. Our culture is now locked firmly on YouTube, chat lines, emails, e-commerce and shopping without taking a deep breath – learning how to swim overnight in a sea of technology. Digital this and that, the average fifth grader sure has a lot to worry about today besides testing themselves against old dudes like me.

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Canada

Northern teachers win tax break

Teachers with Cree and Inuit school boards will save an average of \$1,500 a year

by Steve Bonspiel

Hundreds of non-native teachers working in the north have won a major battle with Revenue Canada, which has accepted arguments by the Northern Quebec Teaching Association over the way evaluations of the housing accommodation tax in the north is calculated.

NQTA President Patrick D'Astous and 40 teachers fought for more than two years to prove the discrepancy between housing costs in the north in comparison to the south. D'Astous is relieved the battle is finally done – and won.

"I was elected because of this issue," said D'Astous, who was already fighting the issue on his own when he was asked to fight for roughly 450 NQTA members affected by the discrepancy. The teachers are employees of the Cree and Kativik School Boards. "I feel glad for sure, but there is still a lot to do."

The ruling also affects Inuit teachers who teach in other communities and pay tax.

The early August agreement means non-native and Inuit teachers, who had an income tax evaluation on homes provided by the two school boards of \$942, which is the same across the country, were re-evaluated and would now only be expected to pay income tax on \$380 a month – a savings of between \$1,000 and \$2,500 annually.

The flaw is in the cheap rent offered by the CSB and KSB as an incentive, which ended up penalizing teachers. The difference between the \$160 many paid towards their rent and the evaluation of this benefit's worth as \$942 by Revenue Canada (\$782 per month) was calculated as taxable income.

D'Astous found this unacceptable and he set out to change the way they were taxed. Court cases in 1998 and 2001 involving the Inuit community of Puvirnituq demonstrated a difference between northern accommodations – often times dilapidated, not properly insulated and in general disrepair – were much different from southern living standards.

D'Astous made a request to Jean Luc Belanger, the Certified Evaluator who helped the non-native and Inuit teachers in POV to get on board and prove the same thing across the board. Prove it he did.

"He produced a report using the same techniques that were accepted by the Court of Appeal of Quebec in the POV case," said D'Astous.

Using a system that calculates the value of living quarters based on many variables, including distance from a major city centre and remoteness of the village, Belanger convinced Revenue Canada to change their minds.

"There is no real market in the north," said D'Astous. "It's bulletproof as it was upheld by the Quebec Court of Appeal in 2002. It was the only way to calculate the real value of those houses."

Philip Kropveld, who teaches in various secondary levels from grades 7 to 11 in Nemaska, was pleased with the ruling. He was one of the teachers who filed his 2005 and 2006 tax returns under protest. The ruling means that he will be taxed on \$3000 less per year, putting \$1200 more into his pocket.

"I'm happy with the ruling, but there is still a lot of work ahead as far as all the paper work retroactively," said Kropveld, who has been working in Nemaska for seven years.

He hoped that there was no bad blood between he and his colleagues and the CSB.

"The issue should have never been looked at by the CSB as anything except for a proposal by the union to make fairer taxation to the teachers which in turn would make it easier for them to attract and keep teachers. It's a good situation for everyone."

D'Astous said that non-native and Inuit teachers in the north were overpaying Ottawa to the tune of \$1 million a year.

He said he now has three steps in front of him. The first is to make sure the KSB and the CSB change their ways of calculating income tax for non-natives and Inuit. The second is to explain to everyone presently teaching at the boards how they can get their money back.

The third and hardest step will be to find others who are no longer working in the north to help them claim their money back.

Under Revenue Canada's laws, they can only reimburse taxpayers to 10 years previous, even if some teachers were overpaying for much longer.

"They might even decide that they don't want to go that far back, that's why I sent out a news release to put pressure on them," said D'Astous.

He also added that a reduction in money taken out of teachers' pockets would encourage more teachers to come up north. The average experience of the teachers in Nunavik is 1.2 years. Most teachers are discouraged when they have to pay similar taxes up north as they do down south.

"We won't have quality in education if 50 per cent of our school staff changes. That's why we're fighting on the taxable side," said D'Astous, adding that the \$6,000 to \$11,000 isolation pay teachers get to move up north is also taxable.

D'Astous emphasized that the ruling affects every Inuit and non-native up north in every industry, which could total more than 5,000 workers.

"The next fight is to file a complaint to Quebec Human Rights for my fellow Cree members so they can buy back Quebec Pension Plan benefits. They just started paying into it this year, so they'll have less money than their non-native colleagues. They were discriminated against for many years. It's a relief, one fight is over, but that's the next fight."

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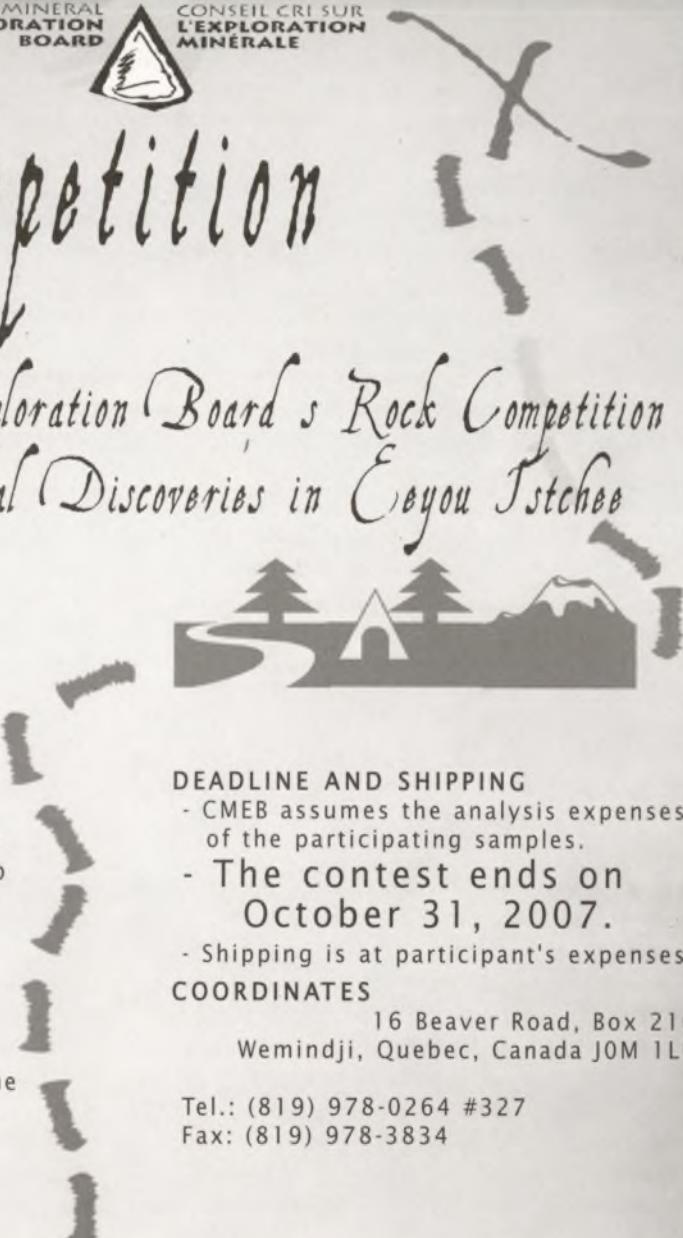
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KASHECHEWAN STAYS PUT

Liberals say Tory government chose cheaper option at residents' expense

By Amy German

The federal government will allocate about \$200 million over seven years to rebuild the tainted water-stricken community of Kashechewan.

An agreement between the disaster prone community's Chief Jonathan Solomon and Indian Affairs Minister Jim Prentice was signed July 30 after negotiations began last March. But many are saying that this deal is not the best that could have been done for the community.

"A \$500 MILLION PRICE TAG FOR MOVING THE MORE THAN 1,500 RESIDENTS TO A SPOT 30 KILOMETRES AWAY WAS TOO RICH FOR OTTAWA."

Kashechewan held a non-confidence meeting prior to the signing of the deal, but only 50 of the 1,500 inhabitants of the reserve showed up, all of them in favour of keeping the community where it is instead of relocating.

The previous Liberal government had offered a \$500 million deal to relocate the community over 10 years. But, said Liberal Aboriginal Affairs Critic Anita Neville, "a \$500 million price tag for moving the more than 1,500 residents to a spot 30 kilometres away was too rich for Ottawa."

The community of Kashechewan has faced massive flooding twice in the last three years and was evacuated in 2005 amidst an E. coli contamination of the water supply, leaving the community in a precarious situation.

"I have the feeling that [Chief] Solomon went with the offer because it was this or nothing and it's already been 15 months," said Neville.

The Liberals are slamming the Conservative government because the party had previously said it would allow Kashechewan residents to decide their own fate. One report said



a majority of residents favoured relocating on their traditional territory.

Indian Affairs spokesperson Patricia Valladao said the \$200 million figure is only an estimated cost. "We will work towards rebuilding the community at the site it is on now. We really can not say how much is going to be spent as this is just an estimate."

Valladao said the money would cover infrastructure, sewer, water and reconstruction of a dyke. According to Vallado, \$50 million has been earmarked to protect and reinforce the dyke that surrounds the community to prevent further flooding. Also on the agenda would be the construction of 200 new houses over the course of seven years.

Valladao denies the Liberal charges that the government is ignoring community wishes. "Apparently there were consultations and most of the people did not want to move as they said that 'This is our land and really we don't want to move.' They preferred and they chose to stay where they are and have that money to be reinvested in the community in building new houses, infrastructure and fixing up the dyke," she said.

During the consultation process two very different plans were proposed. The engineering firm Neegan Burnside examined both rebuilding Kashechewan where it is or to develop the community on land called "site 5." The company estimated that to build a new community on another site would cost \$474 million.



"Regional statistics clearly illustrate that we are living in a very important era of Cree history."



"National statistics state that the ability for First Nations to develop their own economies and create meaningful employment will definitely be tested."



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Cree Nation Pentathlon

Waskaganish's Rod Blueboy is staking his claim as the fastest Cree men's competition distance runner, winning his 34 km event with a 2:17:55 time in the 12th Annual Cree Nation Fitness Challenge, held in Nemaska July 27-29.

The challenge featured over 30 competitors in eight competitions, including swimming, cycling, portage canoeing and running.

Blueboy was followed by Steve Cheechoo from Waskaganish and Stephan Gunner from Mistissini.

For the 24.5 km women's competition, Mistissini speedster Lina Petawabano led the pack with a time of 1:53:28. Trisha Gunner was second. For the women's team relay, Mistissini team two won with a time of 2:22:11 with Trisha Gunner, Courtney Neeposh, Ruth Gunner, Stephanie Mianscum, and Lina Petawabano.

Mistissini team three won the men's team relay in a time of 4:03:27 with a line-up featuring Stanley Neeposh, Kenny Gunner, John Gunner, and Wally RabbitSkin. In the men's recreational challenge, Reginald Blackned of Waskaganish came in first at 1:28:59, leading both Jimmy Coonishish and Jimmy Matoush from Mistissini.

For the women's recreational challenge Sophie Matoush from Mistissini won with a time of 1:37:15, with Sandra Coonishish and Robin Trapper of Mistissini coming second and third.

In the mini boys category, Derland Shecapio of Waskaganish lead the group with a time of 1:05:37; Nelson Wapachee and Terence Hester were second and third. In the girls mini challenge Lynn Sue Kistabish from Pikogan won over Courtney Neeposh and Yolanda Shashaweskum.

Several drug busts in Kuujjuarapik

The Kativik Regional Police Force seized 1.8 kilos of cannabis at the Kangirsuuaq Airport July 31. Constables Shawn McDonald and Jeffrey Marcoux, of the Aboriginal Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit, had secured a warrant for the

seizure three days in advance. The KRPF claims the marijuana had a street value of \$85,000.

In a separate case the same Friday, constables Marcoux and McDonald executed a search warrant in a residence and seized \$790 and 10 grams of pot individually packaged and ready for sale.

Two other drug seizures amounting to 55 grams of cannabis in the same community have occurred, McDonald said. "It's a social issue in the communities: parents using their money to buy drugs or alcohol instead of buying food for their children," he said.

'Skag gets cell coverage

Telebec Mobilité has invested almost \$300,000 to bring cellular phone service to Waskaganish. The community's 2,200 residents gained cell phone coverage July 18.

Telebec already provides service to Chisasibi, Matagami, Chibougamau, Mistissini, Waswanipi, Nemaska, Eastmain, Val'd'Or and La Sarre.

Vincent Guimont, Vice-President of Sales and Strategic Solutions at Télécab, said the band council collaborated with the company on the new service.

"We are very proud to be able to offer digital cellular phone service, which will facilitate communications for the citizens of Waskaganish," Guimont said. "This new infrastructure will also make their travels and activities safer."

Washaw Sibi elections rescheduled after eligibility controversy

The unrecognized Cree community of Washaw Sibi, near Amos, has rescheduled an election for Chief after a conflict over who is eligible to vote in the election. The new vote is August 9 (after *Nation* press time), according to Washaw Sibi returning officer Simeon Trapper.

In the running are current chief Billy Katabatuk, Jimmy Roderick Trapper and Ronnie Trapper Sr.

Simeon Trapper would not say who made complaints, nor would he discuss their substance. "There was points that they handed to me that I regarded and I took care of but it took me some time to really study that, it took me about three or four days to give an answer to the population. So, there is going to be re-elections on the 9th of August," he said.

As it does not fall under Indian and Northern Affairs elections regulations, the electoral list itself is not public knowledge.

"As a returning officer as I am trying to do my job as respectfully as possible and be fair," Trapper said.

According to Trapper, to be eligible to vote for a chief in Washaw Sibi, a beneficiary number and deep roots in the community are essential. "Let's say he has a beneficiary number and he comes from Chisasibi, we can not accept this guy. You have to have a background here. Your parents, your grandparents, whatever, go back 100 years, you have to see where you come from and have a beneficiary number."

Abuse, gangs and change

CREE YOUTH SPEAK OUT AT WEMINDJI CONFERENCE

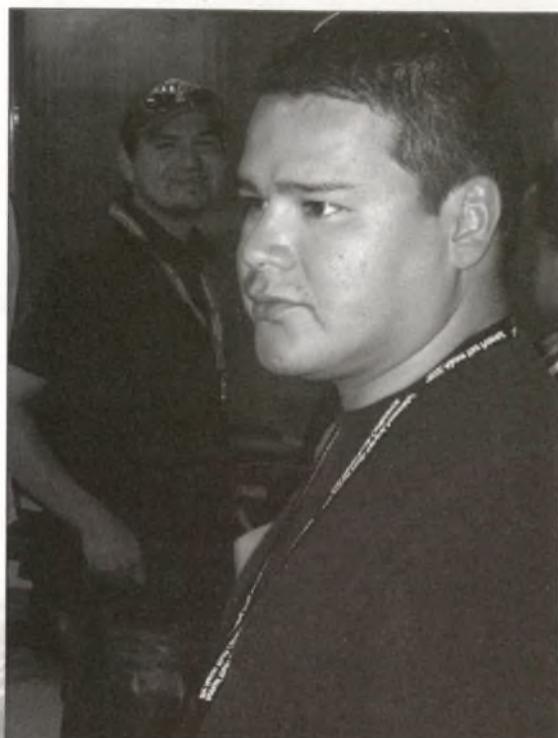
By Steve Bonspiel

No less than a dozen houses in Wemindji have "NWA" or "COL" spray painted on their sides. NWA stands for Native With Attitude, COL for Cree Outlaws. The nicknames are for rival young gangs in the Cree community.

But the gang problem wasn't on the agenda of the 17th Annual Cree Nation Youth General Assembly in Wemindji August 4-5. Indeed, the assembly got off to slow start as quorum could not be reached until over two hours after it was scheduled.

Many important topics were discussed to help improve things for the future generations. Unfortunately, the growing gang problem wasn't one of them.

An impromptu awareness week was held in November after the situation heightened and a concerted effort to fight the gangs formed. Community members spoke during the week and various workshops were held to sway youngsters from joining a gang.



Washash Sibi Youth Chief Billy Kataputuk Jr.
(Joshua Bosum in the background)



Singer Sarah Decarlo



Milton Creagh teaches the perils of bad parenting

According to Wemindji Youth Chief Shannon Atsynia, the problem has been going on for a couple of years and the community is scrambling with how to tackle the issue.

"A month before the awareness week there was a group of girls who were beaten up and pictures of the fight were put on the Internet," she said. "Two days later we planned to have an awareness week."

A task force was created made up of parents, teachers, police officers and the local youth council. They also started an initiative called "Taking Back the Streets."

Although a new youth council was elected in May, the momentum has slowed.

"Here in Wemindji I've seen young kids who say they don't want to live anymore because they are being bullied," Atsynia said. "Our aim was at the kids 12 and under to show them that they have a place to turn to."

She told *The Nation* that the gangs are composed of kids aged 10 to 15, most of whom come from abusive or broken homes.

Atsynia hosted a youth radio program on which she conducted various awareness activities and explored ways to let people know how to deal with the sensitive situation. One of the suggestions was to have safe houses where kids being bullied can go if they are in immediate trouble. "It's one of the things our youth council wants to start up again because the task committee hasn't done anything," she said.

Currently, Atsynia's home is the only one qualified as a safe house. She went through training to learn how to deal with the problems children encounter.

The police know about the problem, but have not done anything concrete as of yet. "One person wrote down all the names down of each gang," she said. "The police got a hold of it and are currently investigating."

Atsynia herself moved into a house that had been spray-painted with a gang tag. A group of parents got together at one point last year and painted over it. But, a little while later, it was back. Nonetheless, Atsynia said that for some reason incidents have decreased since Christmas.

The rest of the conference had less of a serious tone. The first thing on the agenda had to do with numbers. As the meeting began, a total of five representatives per community were allowed to sit and vote at the meeting, but it was passed that an additional two per community would also be able to attend and vote at their community's expense.

Also, the title of Chairperson for the Assembly was changed to Youth Grand Chief to be more official and to garner more respect and clout with the outside governments.

"We talked about reviving things we've done before like the summer games," said Youth Grand Chief John Matoush. "It helped to develop the youth, not only in the

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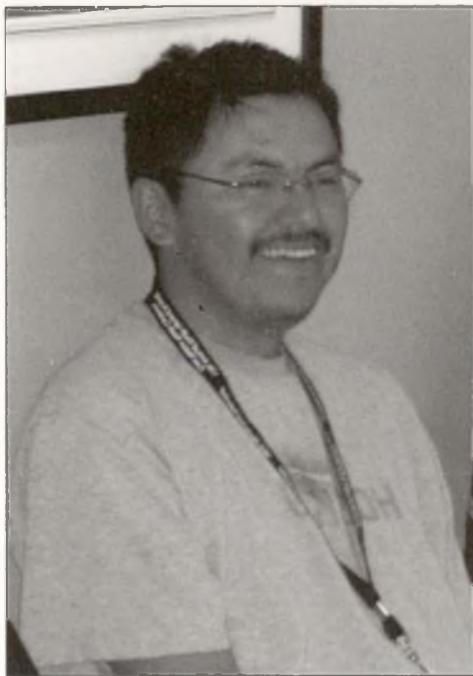
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sports world, but by personal development too. They were able to meet with their peers from other communities as well. So that's something we carried a resolution on, to try to revive that event."

Matoush was asked about the absence of MoCreebec at the youth table and he replied that his hands are tied on that issue.

with the development of Cree governance. A resolution was passed for the CNYC to play an active role in the development of Cree governance."

Matoush and the CNYC also worked with PRIDE Youth Programs, an organization that fights drugs and violence in the communities through public speaking, drama, dance and song. They train youth how to conduct fun workshops that develop social aspects of their personalities. Once they are in their comfort zone, they are further encouraged to move on to the hard issues that young people face.

At the end of the workshops, Matoush challenged the youth to go back to their communities and get the youth involved on a local level. He is looking to form a regional group.

Waskaganish Youth Chief Stacy Bear, who is running for councillor in this month's election in her hometown, said that it is time the older generation gives the younger (and sometimes better-educated) generation a chance.

"I think the youth should be recognized more," said Bear, who has a certificate in Aboriginal studies from Algonquin College.

"A lot of the young people who have graduated, you don't see them in the positions they should have. The people in the higher positions should be upgraded. A lot of them haven't even gotten their diploma."

She said that creativity and writing skills are poor in most band councils and other entities.

"Writing is very important, especially in the administrative positions, such as writing reports and proposals," she said. "We need to take those young people who have learned that stuff and put them in those positions. I'm sure there will be a better structure. They know the resources outside of the community that they can bring in, as opposed to someone who is in the community doing the same thing over and over again."

Bear, 27, who has been Youth Chief for almost two years, has been involved in youth issues and active in her community since

"A lot of the young people who have graduated, you don't see them in positions they should be. The people in the higher positions should be upgraded. A lot of them haven't even gotten their diploma."

"The constitution that we have now is specifically for the nine communities and also the tenth community, Wasa Sibi, that are part of the assembly," said Matoush. "I think it would be important to see where they're at. I know they're trying to establish a similar organization to what we have."

Matoush was happy with this year's youth AGA.

"There is a vast amount of knowledge and wisdom that the youth carry now," he said. "There's a lot of education out there. They spoke about different issues happening in their communities. Whether it is a local issue or a Cree Nation issue. The other thing we got from the assembly is we're trying to get involved

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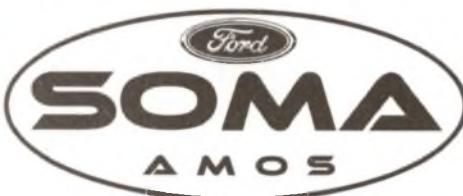
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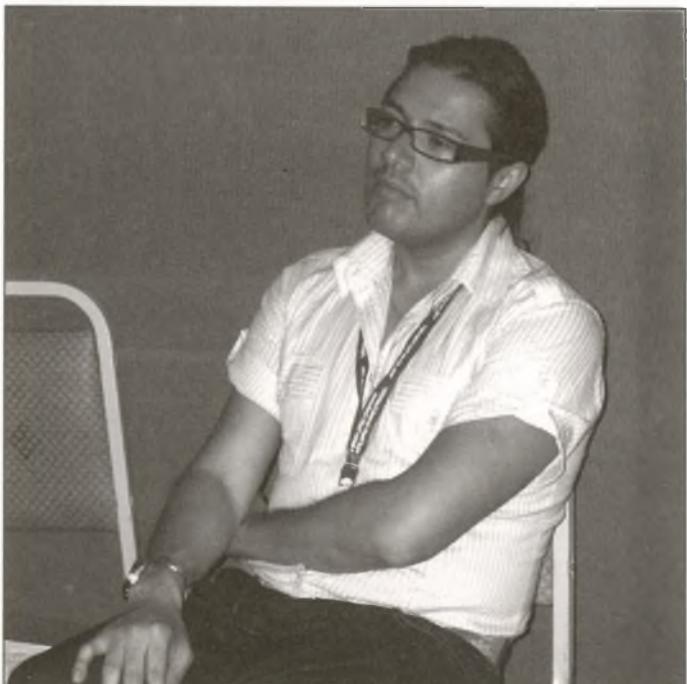
"When you use your strength in a good way and not a negative way you can do wonders, no matter how old you are, if you're really dedicated to what you are doing it makes a huge impact and people see that."

she was 15. She sees the new generation as a way to change the Cree Nation and some old ideals.

"When you use your strength in a good way and not a negative way you can do wonders," said Bear. "No matter how old you are, if you're really dedicated to what you are doing it makes a huge impact and people see that."

Two huge problems in her community are drugs and suicide, said Bear. Conferences like these also help to foster new ideas and initiatives that would hopefully produce results in the long run.

"I think it's more helpful when you work on one person at a time. Cocaine is a big issue in our community and it's something we should attack. Also inner healing. We've had some tragic incidents with our youth and we need to help them."



Mistissini Rep Josh Iserhoff

IGNORING THE WARNING SIGNS

Speaker Milton Creagh says parents are letting their kids down

Motivational speaker Milton Creagh's parenting workshop at the youth conference had bite.

Known as Bigg Milt, The 6'7" African American from Chicago talks loud and has an in-your-face style. But he also kept the mostly under-30 crowd laughing.

"My message is we have responsibilities as parents," said Creagh. "For those of us who are Christian, that's delineated in the Bible."

Between 12 and 20 people attended his lectures over two nights at the local fire hall. Creagh had the event filmed so others who missed it could watch it at home.

Creagh said Cree culture mandates older people to pass on the history, traditions and heritage of the community to younger members.

"We've gotten to a point in the world now where we don't want to take that responsibility. Why? Because it's hard. Why do we want the schools to do it or somebody else to do it? It won't work like that. The school and government cannot replace mom and dad. Mom and dad are critical and they must do their part."

Creagh travels the world doing two-hour parenting programs aimed at shaking off the lethargy parents can experience raising their children. He tries to teach them to keep a better eye on their children's activities and look out for warning signs of depression and suicide.

"I do this for all the people I know whose lives were wasted because their parents didn't understand," he told the Nation.

He was particularly shocked by some of the things he saw in Wemindji. Gang graffiti, bad-mannered kids and adults, and the many forms of abuse that occur on a regular basis.

"There are so many warning signs within the community that it seems like the adults are ignoring them," said Creagh, who has visited all nine communities numerous times. "They need to talk about it and do something about it. That's the part that bothers me. It's almost like a lot of people here are waiting for somebody else to fix the problem, instead of recognizing that they are the ones who have to fix the problem."

He added that the small size of Cree communities should enable a better solution if parents start talking to each other about their problems as opposed to other places he visits with larger populations where people don't even know their next-door neighbour.

"When I talk to parents in the States, they seem much more concerned and they're looking for answers. When I come to the Cree Nation, it's like everything is new to everybody. Everyone knows there are these problems, but they don't know what to do."



NOTICE OF REFERENDUM

1. On July 16, 2007, Grand Chief Matthew Mukash of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) and the Honourable Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, on behalf of the Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, announced that the Chief Federal Negotiator and the Chief Cree Negotiator had concluded, subject to approvals by Canada and by the Cree, a proposed *Agreement concerning a New Relationship between the Government of Canada and the Cree of Eeyou Istchee* (the proposed Agreement).
2. Notice is hereby given of a vote by Referendum of the Cree on whether to approve the proposed Agreement.
3. The Referendum Question will be as follows: *Do you approve the proposed Agreement concerning a New Relationship between the Government of Canada and the Cree of Eeyou Istchee? Yes/No.*
4. Any person whose name appears on the Register of Cree beneficiaries maintained by the Province of Quebec pursuant to Sub-section 3.5 of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA) and who is at least eighteen (18) years of age on the last day of the Referendum Period (namely, October 12, 2007) is an Eligible Voter in this Referendum. An Eligible Voters List has been established. Any person may enquire of Mr. Frederick Moar, Local Referendum Officer, at the address, phone/fax numbers or e-mail address listed at point 14 of this Notice, to find out if their name is on the Eligible Voters List.
5. If you believe you meet the criteria to be an Eligible Voter, but your name does not appear on the Eligible Voters List, this may be because your name also did not appear on the Register of Cree beneficiaries maintained by the Province of Quebec. If you nevertheless wish to vote in this Referendum, you must apply to the Quebec Registrar of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement Beneficiaries for inscription of your status as a Cree beneficiary under the JBNQA. **Prompt attention to making such application is imperative.** While the Referendum Committee is making representations to the Quebec Registrar to give due attention to the timely processing of such applications, the Referendum Committee does not control the process of inscription on the Quebec Register. Any applications for inscription on the Quebec Register that are approved prior to the first principal polling day, October 1, 2007, will result in a similar addition of that person's name to the Eligible Voters List for this Referendum. Inquiries for inscription of a person's status as a Cree beneficiary on the Quebec Register may be directed as follows: **Referendum 2007 Office for Registration of Cree Beneficiaries of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, 81 Metcalfe Street, Suite 900, Ottawa Ontario K1P 6K7 Telephone toll-free: 1-888-761-1655**
6. The Referendum Period will begin on August 6, 2007 and end on October 12, 2007, unless extended by the Chief Referendum Officer in accordance with the Referendum Rules as a result of a rescheduling of any poll due to unforeseen circumstances.
7. English and French versions of the proposed Agreement, a summary of it and other materials relevant to the Referendum may be viewed on the website of the GCC(EI) <http://www.gcc.ca/> or printed copies obtained by contacting Mr. Frederick Moar, Local Referendum Officer, at the address, phone/fax numbers or e-mail address listed at point 14 of this Notice.
8. During the period between August 13, 2007 and September 28, 2007, information sessions will be held in each of the Cree communities, at the GCC(EI) offices in Montreal and Ottawa and at such other locations as the Referendum Committee may determine. The Local Referendum Officer will post the date and location of the information session to be held in his or her community or the polling centre for which he/she is responsible. This may be subject to rescheduling or delay of start time by the Chief Referendum Officer due to unforeseen circumstances. For a complete list of locations, dates, addresses and times of all information sessions, consult the website of the GCC(EI) or call the toll free number listed at point 14 of this Notice.
9. Eligible Voters may vote by Mail-In Ballot at any time during the Referendum Period, provided their ballot is returned by the close of polls on the last roving poll day, October 12, 2007. To obtain a Mail-In Ballot Package, including further instructions on how to exercise a Mail-In Ballot, please contact Mr. Frederick Moar, Local Referendum Officer, at the address, phone/fax numbers or e-mail address listed at point 14 of this Notice.
10. Alternatively, Eligible Voters may vote at a polling centre on any of five "principal polling days", from October 1, 2007 to October 5, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. or such extended hours as may be ordered for any or all locations by the Chief Referendum Officer in accordance with the Referendum Rules. Polling centres will be established in each of the Cree communities, at the GCC(EI) offices in Montreal and Ottawa and at such other locations as the Referendum Committee may determine. For a complete list of all locations where polling centres will be established on these dates, and the specific address of each, consult the website of the GCC(EI) or call the toll free number listed at point 14 of this Notice.
11. As a third voting alternative, Eligible Voters whose place of residence is in a Cree community may request the attendance of a roving poll at their place of residence at any time from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (or such extended hours as may be ordered for any or all of these locations by the Chief Referendum Officer in accordance with the Referendum Rules) during roving poll days, which are from October 8, 2007 to October 12, 2007, both inclusive. In each locality where a roving poll will be available, the Local Referendum Officer for that locality will be posting notice of a local telephone number which may be called, on any of the roving poll days, to request attendance of the roving poll. These local numbers will also be posted on the website of the GCC(EI).
12. Following the announcement of the results of the Referendum, Eligible Voters will have five (5) calendar days to request a recount of the Referendum results. Such application must be supported by the signatures of at least fifteen (15) Eligible Voters, and contain the grounds for requesting the recount and any other relevant information. It must be received by the Chief Referendum Officer at the address indicated at point 13 of this Notice before the expiration of the said five-day period. Similarly, fifteen (15) Eligible Voters or more may request a review of the Referendum by the Referendum Committee by forwarding a written and signed request to the Chief Referendum Officer at the address indicated at the end of this Notice within fifteen (15) calendar days after the public announcement of the Referendum results, accompanied by a declaration, containing the grounds for requesting the review and other relevant information.
13. Questions and any matter addressed to the Chief Referendum Officer, Mr. Lawrence Jimiken, may be directed to him at the following postal address or phone/fax numbers: 1 Lakeshore Road Nemaska Quebec JOY 3B0 telephone: (819) 673-2126; fax: (819) 673-2542; or by Email at: lawrjimi@hotmail.com.
14. Requests for mail-in ballot packages or for more information or for copies of the Agreement may be directed to Mr. Frederick Moar, Local Referendum Officer 81 Metcalfe Street, Suite 900, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 6K7; toll-free telephone number: 1-888-761-1655; fax 1-613-761-1388; or by Email at: red@chrd.ca.

Lawrence Jimiken, Chief Electoral Officer



HISTORY THROUGH THE EYES OF PARKS CANADA

By Amy German

Though the name "Parks Canada," may conjure up images of lush green landscapes, mountains, rivers, and all manner of outdoor activities, the government agency has a whole lot more to offer than a nature encounter.

Parks Canada accounts for a number of major cultural historical sites across the country, many of which are located in urban settings.

To show the world what they had to offer, Parks Canada invited 20 journalists for a full day of activities last July 20, centred on the tours and educational activities available in Montreal through Parks Canada.

On the itinerary were three very different yet very pertinent sites in the city's history: the Sir Georges-Etienne Cartier House, The Fur Trade at Lachine National Historic Site at Lac St-Louis and a cruise tour of the Lachine Canal highlighting Montreal's industrial origins.

This three-pronged tour of these very different historical sites was specific to the media tour and is not available to the public. The intention was to showcase the different varieties of tours and cultural activities that Parks Canada can custom design for just about any group.

The Sir George-Étienne Cartier House

Nestled on the lesser travelled eastern border of Old Montreal is the former home of one of the so-called fathers of Confederation, Sir George-Étienne Cartier. Billed as the only preserved and restored Victorian-style interior open to the gen-



eral public in the Greater Montreal region, its deceptively modest exterior opens up to a well-preserved world of yesteryear.

Cartier was a lawyer, politician and businessman who lived the life of the bourgeoisie to the fullest extent, in other words, lavishly! What separates this tour from Montreal's endless bounds of historic and tourist attractions is its unique quality. Rather than being given the tour by a regular guide, actors in period attire are the hosts in this house.

Throughout the year various different tours are given of the Cartier home. Over the course of the summer months a tour entitled "Montréal: Magnificent and Miserable" was featured, detailing the lives of servants of the 19th century but later on this year a tour developed around Victorian Christmas will also be offered, among others.

For school-aged children there is a fun and interactive tour entitled "The Etiquette Game," wherein students are introduced to polite manners and etiquette practised in the 19th century. Kids also get to take on the roles of Cartier's distinguished guests.

For high school students, "Montreal: Full Steam Ahead!" is a special tour geared towards the newly established social class system that came about during the era due to Montreal's explosive economic growth.

There are also specialized tours available for new Canadians learning either official language, tours geared towards those in tourism, communications and museum studies and a design-cen-



tric tour designed for those in either cabinet-making or design school.

This truly magical blast from the past has something to offer up to just about anyone of any age, to find out more, go to: www.pc.gc.ca/lhn-nhs/qc/etienne-cartier/activ/activ1_E.asp#game

The Fur Trade at Lachine National Historic Site

Though every Canadian who has sat through a high school history class has heard about the fur trade voyageurs at length, how many of you can say that you've been through a quasi simulation? That is what Parks Canada is offering up at this historical museum. It's not just a visit with a lecture on smallish French men in a boat, what they killed and who they traded it to. This interactive tour is all about what it was really like.

The museum itself was a warehouse where the actual pelts were stored some 200 years ago and if you go to the museum you will still discover lots of pelts along with various displays, hats and belts to try on and listen the songs of the era. The guide on the media tour, Daniel Benjamin did not just tell it like it was; he sang it!

After a guided and delightfully animated tour of the fur trade warehouse, the media was invited to climb aboard a Rabaska canoe to paddle the 25-person boat, sing the traditional songs that the fur traders once sang and become truly immersed by the experience.

This tour also featured various different actors to add to the experience, but what was most interesting was the actual canoe that Benjamin said was a gift from the Mi'kmaq community. Though the Rabaska was not historically accurate as the original canoes were significantly smaller (as were the people), it brought a First Nations contribution to this period in history to the forefront of the tour.

If you are fit and into fur this tour has a lot to offer and more information can be found at:

www.pc.gc.ca/lhn-nhs/qc/lachine/activ/activ4_E.asp

The Lachine Canal Boat tour

Up until 1970 this area of town was forbidden to cyclists and pedestrians and it was most certainly not a place to take in Montreal's glory. Now the locks of the Lachine Canal have become a public paradise.



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Spanning 14.5 km from the Old Port to Lac Saint-Louis, the canal has seen many transformations over the course of its history. From its shipping origins prior to construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway, to the hydraulic power supplier of the 19th century to its present status as tourist destination, the area has never lacked for activity.

The mini cruise ship leaves from the Atwater Market and heads off to the reborn Peel Basin via Saint-Gabriel Lock, on a delightful tour that encapsulates Montreal's industrial history.

At one time, the canal was the heart of Montreal's manufacturing district. The tour features various present and former factory buildings and details their historical significance. Opened to shipping in 1825, the Lachine Canal of today is a restored specimen of significant beauty that allows for a unique and breathtaking view of Montreal's distinctive skyline while still touching on its vast history.

For more information on the Lachine Canal and the cruise, go to: www.pc.gc.ca/lhn-nhs/qc/canallachine/index_e.asp

Note: Group rates are available for all of the above-mentioned activities. They recommend booking in advance for any of the tours as Parks Canada will help you select a specific tour geared to the number of people in your group and their age group for maximum enjoyment and learning.



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Invited from Eeyou Istchee: Andy Baribeau & Diane Marois, Goldcorp Inc. Jack Blacksmith, Cree Mineral Exploration Board. Robert Jimikin, Troilus Copper-Gold Mine, Mistissini. John Longchap & Kathleen Wootton, Cree Nation of Mistissini. Alan Penn, CRA-GCC.

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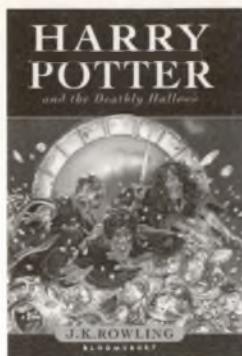
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Pottermania reaches peak

Deathly Hallows has book sales alive and well

By Shadow Critic

J.K. Rowling has recounted an anecdote about an idea that came to her while apartment hunting around the English city of Manchester back in 1990. She was waiting for a train back to London, the story goes, when she had a hazy vision of a scrawny, black-haired boy who did not know he was actually a wizard. She did not have a pen, so for four hours on the train to London these ideas flowed and became more real to her.

She has said that, had she had a pen, the story likely would not have taken on the life it did in her imagination. She began writing the *Philosopher's Stone* right away, but with the death of her mother and the birth of her daughter the quickly developing manuscript changed: the main character Harry Potter became preoccupied with the loss of his parents.

She wrote at little cafes every evening while her daughter slept. She sent the first three chapters to agents to see if it could get published. While some agents returned it immediately, one agent, Christopher Little, mailed her a letter requesting more chapters. It took Little about a year to find a publishing house, Bloomsbury, to make an offer on the first Harry Potter book.

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone hit the bookshelves in 1997 in the United Kingdom. A year later, when Scholastic books purchased the American rights for distribution, they changed the name to *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* to better suit American readers. Because of growing adult readership, the American market began publishing adult and children's versions, the only difference being the artwork on the cover.

The other five books in the series are *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, and *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince*.

The first book begins with Harry Potter finding out on his 11th birthday that he has magical powers when he is invited to attend a secret magic school, Hogwarts. He learns how his parents died sacrificing themselves to protect him from a dark wizard, Voldemort, leaving him with a lightning bolt scar on his forehead.

Each book takes the reader through a year in his life at the magical school, and chronicles his ongoing battles against the return of the dark wizard. While he is virtually a celebrity in the world of magic, he does not like the attention it brings and prefers the company of a few close friends who do not care about his famous past. A moral that comes from the series is fame is not to be glorified, as it is more important to have real friends who accept you for exactly who you are.

Another lesson is that power rarely meets power successfully. Harry Potter clearly tells all who listen after his triumphs that it

is a combination of luck and a need to do the right thing, and the last thing he wishes to be is a hero.

The seventh and final book in the series, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* was released July 21. The book broke sales records all over the world as 11 million copies were sold in the first 24 hours of its release. Many bookstores opened their doors at one minute after midnight, and hosted Harry Potter parties for children waiting to get their copy.

The previous record was held by the sixth book, *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince*, which sold 9 million copies its first day. The audio version of the seventh book also set records as 225,000 copies were sold in the first two days.

The publishing company hired security specialists and many legal protections to avoid any spoilers of this latest book. Spoilers are people who somehow get an advance look at the book, and post on websites information about the story and ending before it is even released. Some copies of this last book were accidentally sent out to readers who had preordered their copy on the internet, so legal actions are being brought for this early leak.

So, even though it is already released, I do not want to spoil anything for those of you who are either still reading the last book, or may decide to. What I will say is that J.K. Rowling ended the book in a way that will leave you satisfied with how the final part of this story was told.

Leading up to this last installment in the series, there have been many rumours about what characters may or may not be killed off. The author herself admits to rewriting these final chapters of his story to allow one key character to live while two others die instead. As for the plot, I think for those who read the *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince*, the path was laid out for Harry Potter and his two closest friends Ron Weasley and Hermione Granger to follow in the seventh book. There are some surprises along the way, and further character development on many of your favorites. The author also finishes the book with a short epilogue giving the reader a glimpse into life in the magical world 19 years later.

What next for J.K. Rowling? She said she feels privileged to have written this series of books. She is approached by adults who started reading her books when they were 11 or so, and now 10 years later are in their 20s. She will take a break from writing as she is tired of deadlines but will eventually return to writing something in the future. We will have to wait and see what she decides to tackle next time. To learn more about her, she has a website, www.jkrowling.com.

What is left for Harry Potter fans? Well, if you are suffering Harry withdrawal, remember that *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* is in theatres now. It is a little darker than previous movies but entertaining nonetheless. If you get the chance go to the IMAX 3-D version as the last part of the movie in 3-D is a treat.

There are also two more movies to be made. While Daniel Radcliffe (Harry Potter) was paid \$250,000 for the first movie, he has signed a contract for \$50 million to star in the last two of the series. It was also announced this year that a Harry Potter theme park would be constructed in Orlando, Florida, scheduled to open in 2009.

CANADA
PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
District of Montréal
No: 500-06-000201-034

(Class Action)
SUPERIOR COURT

GHISLAIN PICARD
Petitioner
v.
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF QUÉBEC
and
DEPUTY-MINISTER OF REVENUE OF QUÉBEC

Respondents

1. BE ADVISED that the institution of a class action was authorized on May 7, 2007 by a judgment of the Honourable Jean Lemelin, Justice of the Superior Court, on behalf of the natural persons belonging to the group described hereinafter:

Any Indian within the meaning of the *Indian Act*, R.S.C. (1985), c. I-5 ? with the exception of a Cree beneficiary within the meaning of the *Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act*, S.C. 1984, c. 18 ? who, since it came into force, has paid the tax collected under the *Fuel Tax Act*, R.S.Q., c. T-1, when purchasing gasoline or fuel oil on an Indian reserve within the meaning of the *Indian Act* or on Cree or Naskapi Category IA or IA-N land within the meaning of the *Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act*.

2. The Chief Justice ordered that the class action authorized by that judgment be instituted in the District of Québec

3. The address of the petitioner is as follows:

Secretariat of the Assembly of the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador, 250, Place Chef Michel Laveau, Suite 201, Wendake, Québec G0A 4V0
The address of the respondents is as follows:

Complexe Desjardins, North Block, 150 Sainte-Catherine West, 26th floor, Montréal H5B 1A4

4. The status of representative for the institution of the class action has been ascribed to Ghislain Picard, Regional Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, c/o Secretariat of the Assembly of the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador, 250, Place Chef Michel Laveau, suite 201, Wendake, QC G0A 4V0 .

5. The main questions of fact or of law that will be dealt with collectively are as follows:

- Does the *Fuel Tax Act* compel Indians to pay the provincial fuel tax when purchasing gasoline or fuel oil from a retailer located on an Indian reserve or Cree or Naskapi Category IA or IA-N land?
- Does the *Fuel Tax Act* violate the provisions of the *Indian Act* and the *Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act*, and, if so, does the application of those laws have primacy over that of the *Fuel Tax Act*?
- Is the possibility of obtaining the reimbursement of a provincial tax according to the criteria established by the provincial legislator, whereas payment is mandatory, in keeping with the exemption granted under section 87 of the *Indian Act* and section 188 of the *Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act*?
- Are the members of the group entitled to require that sections 2, 3 and 10.2 of the *Fuel Tax Act* be declared inoperative in their regard for any purchase of gasoline or fuel oil on a reserve or Cree or Naskapi Category IA or IA-N land?
- Are the members of the group entitled to seek restitution and, if so, is that recourse prescribed?
- Are the members of the group entitled to damages and, if so, is that recourse prescribed?

6. The conclusions sought that are related to these questions are as follows:

ALLOW the institution of Ghislain Picard's class action;

DECLARE inoperative, in regard to any Indian as defined in subsection 2(1) of the *Indian Act*, the obligation created by sections 2 and 3 of the *Fuel Tax Act* to pay the fuel tax at the time of any purchase of gasoline or fuel oil on a reserve or Cree or Naskapi Category IA or IA-N lands, pursuant to the primacy of section 87 of the *Indian Act* and section 188 of the *Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act*, as well as pursuant to section 52 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982;

Subsidiarily, DECLARE inoperative, in regard to any Indian as defined in subsection 2(1) of the *Indian Act*, the reimbursement scheme establi-

shed in the first paragraph of section 10.2 of the *Fuel Tax Act*, as well as sections 10.2R.2 and 10.2R.3 of the *Regulation respecting the application of the Fuel Tax Act*, as regards purchases on a reserve or Cree or Naskapi Category IA or IA-N lands, because of the absolute exemption granted in section 87 of the *Indian Act* and section 188 of the *Cree-Naskapi (of Quebec) Act*, as well as pursuant to section 52 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982;

ORDER the respondents to make restitution to each member of the group of the amount of the fuel tax paid for which they were not liable and which was not the subject of a notice of assessment issued by the Minister of Revenue, since the coming into force of the *Fuel Tax Act*, with interest at the legal rate as of each payment, capitalized daily or, subsidiarily, with the interest provided for in section 30 of the *Act respecting the Ministère du Revenu*;

ORDER the respondents to pay each of the members of the group an amount as compensation for inconvenience and loss of income caused by the respondents' actions;

GRANT an amount as a special fee under section 15 of the *Tariff of judicial fees of advocates*, R.R.Q. 1981, c. B-1, r.13;

With costs, including the cost of expert testimony, both for the preparation of the petitioner's expert reports and for the petitioner's expert's appearances before the Court, and costs for notices.

7. The class action to be instituted by the representative on behalf of the members of the group will consist of:

An action for a declaratory judgment to declare inoperative certain provisions of the *Fuel Tax Act* and its implementing regulation, and to obtain restitution.

8. Any member of the group not excluded in the manner indicated hereinafter will be bound by any judgment to be handed down in the class action.

9. The date after which a member can no longer be excluded, except with special permission, has been set at 120 days from publication of this notice.

10. A member who has not yet made an individual claim can exclude himself or herself from the group by notifying the clerk of the Superior Court of the District of Montréal, by registered or certified mail before expiry of the exclusion deadline.

11. Any member of the group who has made a claim that the final judgment in the class action would dispose of is deemed to be excluded from the group if he or she does not withdraw his or her request before expiry of the exclusion deadline.

12. A member of the group other than the representative or an intervening party cannot be asked to pay the costs of the class action.

13. A member can have the Court receive his or her intervention if it is considered useful to the group. An intervening member must undergo an examination on discovery or a medical examination, as the case may be, at the request of the respondents. A member who does not intervene in the class action may be subjected to an examination on discovery or a medical examination only if the Court considers it necessary.

Maitre David Schulze
DIONNE GERTLER SCHULZE
507 Place d'Armes, #1100
Montréal, Québec H2Y 2W8
www.dgslex.ca

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BEAUREGARD, DAVID
1, rue McGill, B.P. 105
Bureau 15B
Montréal, Québec H2Y 4A3

Not to offend anyone on the topic of lands. I know its important in our culture. Whatever we are doing to this nature has already been polluted and destroyed enough. Negotiations about how the South people want to add new dams and cut down trees. My biggest concern for this First Nations People is that we have more than we can ask for. Let's not depend so much on government, but trust in the Lord.

There are many issues surrounding the First Nations Cree communities. I know we can't fix anybody's problems, but we can try. I want to add a personal issue.

Women who are abused by their spouses: where do they turn to when they have no place to go? The Cree Health Board can help, but they send them "you know where." I have heard a friend and her friends say I wish we had some women's shelters in our community so we wouldn't have to leave our community and still feel safe because we are sheltered. I for one want what's best for these women. If I was in this position I wouldn't want to leave my community because this is where my children grew up and where my family lives. We need to stand for these women and children facing difficult challenges in their daily lives and struggles. We need to help them.

My suggestion is that we build shelters for women and children in the communities. If we can build elders homes, we can certainly help the women in need. Or we can call it elders, women and children's homes?

Story about me: I lived in a home where I constantly heard yelling and shouting. Verbally abusing Mom and children. I couldn't take it. Still, to this day. I am 29 years old and I still live in fear of a person who's still the same person years ago, that's my Dad.

I had to move on with my life. I met a person who loved me like no other, then we married in 1997. This man cared for me so much that I had a hard time understanding why. Why does he care for me so much, when all my life I was put down so much that I kept saying to myself, why? Why am I here? What purpose do I have? I am not worth it.

He kept on encouraging me, telling me that we love you and we have three children who love us so much. No matter what happens in our lives, we gotta keep going. Don't look back at the past, it will just put you down more. Move forward. Take one step at a time. That's what I am trying to do.

I feel that we should help these women and children, because they have so much to live for. They have been put down so much that we need to give something back to love and comfort them. Because every person is a delicate flower but some are losing their stems because they don't know how to grow. Even if we water them, they are lost.

Charlene

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	Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center	\$149.00	905-639-4443	Spencer Smith Park
	Homewood Suites	\$159.00	905-631-8300	African Lion Safari
Calgary	Holiday Inn Macleod Trail	\$179.00	403-287-2700	Calgary Stampede Park
Guelph	Holiday Inn	\$165.00	519-836-0231	African Lion Safari
Halifax	Holiday Inn Halifax Harbourview	\$164.00		902-463-1100 Historic Fortress
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Kitchener	Radisson Hotel Kitchener Waterloo	\$139.00	519-894-9500	St. Jacobs Market and Village
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	Radisson Hotel & Suites	\$149.00	519-668-7900	East Park Golf Gardens
Markham	Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites	\$139.00	905-474-0444	Toronto Zoo
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Ottawa Kanata	Holiday Inn Select Hotel & Suites	\$159.00		613-271-3057
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2007

Park Safari

Thanks for stopping by!



The Nation would like to thank everyone that dropped by the office to pick up Parc Safari tickets, this summer!

1. Annette Neeposh, Glorianna Neeposh, Wabaguann Neeposh, Johnnie Neeposh, Sinclair Neeposh;
 2. Bella Blacksmith, Leslie Rupert, Stewart Rupert, Lilybelle Rupert, James Blacksmith, Shannon Rupert, Jennifer Rupert;
 3. Matthew Longchap, Minnie Longchap, Isaac Longchap, Maceline Happyjack, Madison Longchap, Meegwin Longchap, Lennox Longchap;
 4. Greta Spencer, Jacob Otter, Elizabeth Otter, Angie Spencer-Otter, Lucas Spencer-Otter;
 5. Joseph Blacksmith, Sally Blacksmith, Samuel Boyce Blacksmith, Eavadney Blacksmith, Charlo Blacksmith, Lynda Blacksmith, Natasha Shecapio, Angel Shecapio, Chantal-Lynn Blacksmith, Racheal Blacksmith, Christopher House, Tyreese House;

6. Angela Coonishish, Gerald Coonishish, Mary-Jane Trapper, Victor Coonishish, Verna Coonishish;
 7. Michael Coonishish, Linda Coonishish, Miranda Coonishish, Clayton Coonishish, Mikhail Coonishish, Malachi Coonishish;
 8. Chantale Otter Tetreault, Helen Otter Tetreault, Liam Daigle;
 9. Junior Bobbish, Sarah Sam, Shayline Bobbish, Deion Bobbish, Tamara Bobbish;
 10. Clayton Tomatuk, Gertie Tomatuk, Faith Moses, Mark Tomatuk, Betty Tomatuk, Randy Tomatuk, Minnie O'Conner, Isaac Tomatuk, Gabriel Tomatuk, Logan Tomatuk, Austin Weapenicappo.
 11. Jonah Iserhoff, Shirley Coonishish, Chelsea Coonishish, Katie Coonishish, Matteo Saganash, Sahne, Jasmine & Shania.

LETTER

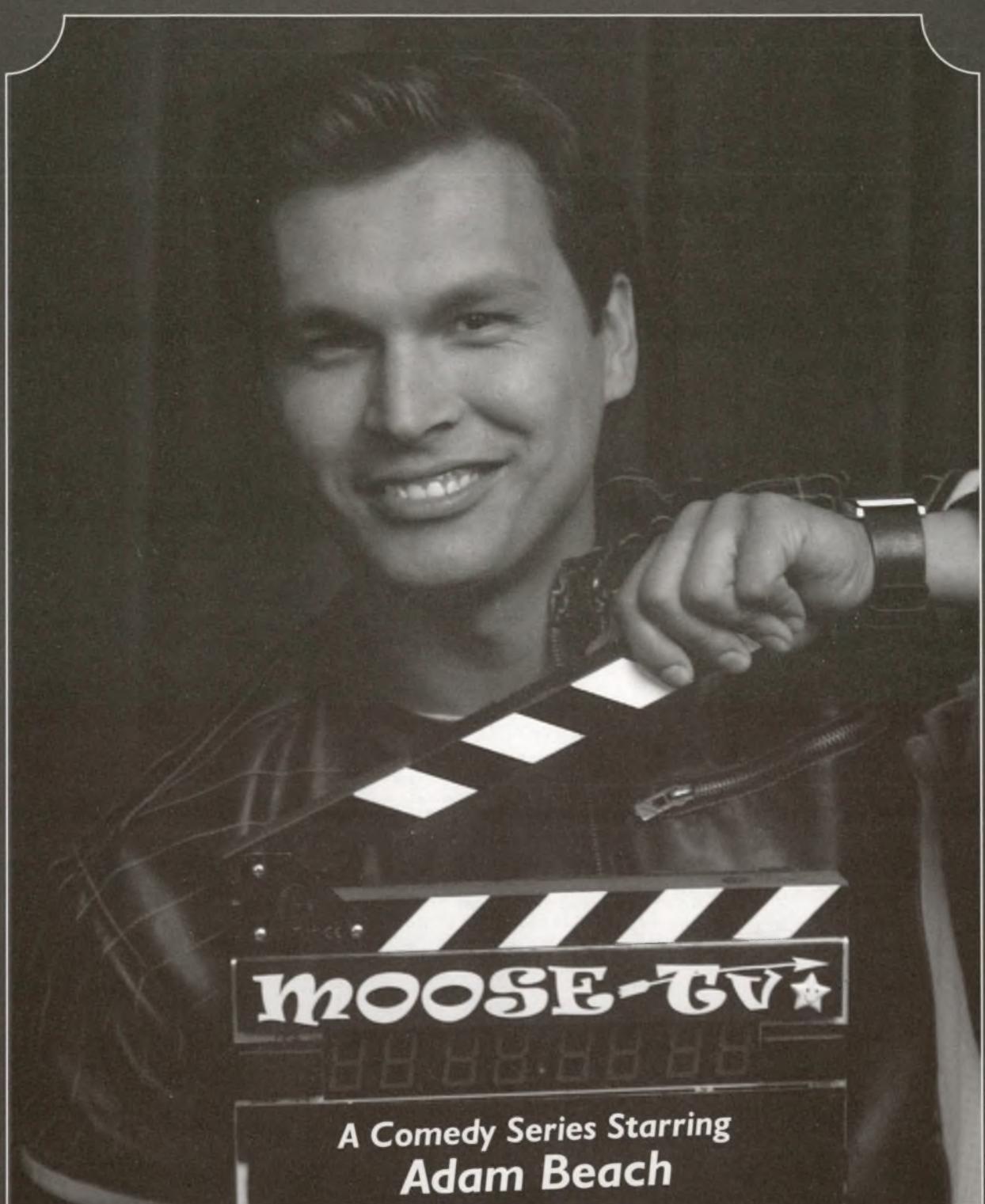
Dear sir,

We would like to thank you for the eight tickets that you gave to the Tomatuk families to visit PARC SAFARI. We went on July 18 for the day and had a wonderful time. We enjoyed all of the animals especially the elephants. The waterpark was also a big hit with the children.

Yours truly,

Clayton Tomatuk, Eastmain





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Specific Agreement On Tourism

for the Eenouch of Eeyou Istchee

Do you have a business or activity that contributes to the tourism industry of Eeyou Istchee?

If so, you may be able to benefit from the Specific Agreement on Tourism.

The objective of this agreement is to increase the tourism activity and to support job creation within the tourism sector in Eeyou Istchee.

This agreement supports projects within the following sectors:

- Promotion
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- Attractions
- Activities & Equipment
- Events
- Camping
- Outfitting

For further information, regarding the application and approval process, please contact:

Jeannette Rojas
Program Officer - Cree Regional Authority
277 Duke Street, suite 102
Montreal, QC H3C 2M2
Phone: (514) 861-5837
Fax: (514) 861-0760
jrojas@gcc.ca

"Thanking you in advance for your application, and for demonstrating your willingness to increase the tourist activity within Eeyou Istchee."



Healthy Living

Nourish the body and
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Many people in Eeyou Istchee have Diabetes, or know of someone who does. Quite often this can be someone they love. We know that healthier food choices are important, but let's face it, sometimes they can border on boring. Well, not anymore! Each month *the Nation* will feature a delicious meal that keeps in mind the importance of health maintenance but does not forget rich and hearty satisfaction.

New York Style Cheesecake

Ingredients

Graham Cracker Crumb Crust

1 1/4 cups	graham cracker crumbs	300ml
2 tbsp	sugar	30ml
3 tbsp	margarine, melted	45ml
1-2 tbsp	honey	15-30ml

Filling

3 (8 oz) pkgs	fat-free cream cheese, softened	750g
3/4 cup	sugar	175ml
2	eggs	
2 tbsp	cornstarch	30ml
1 tsp	vanilla	5ml
1 cup	reduced-fat sour cream	250ml

Directions

1. Pre-heat your oven to 325° F.
2. To make the crust: Combine your graham cracker crumbs, 2 tbsp sugar and margarine in 8 or 9 inch springform pan. Add enough honey for the mixture to stick together. Spread and pat the mixture evenly on the bottom and 1/2 inch up the sides of your pan.
3. To make the filling: Beat together your cream cheese and 3/4 cup sugar in large bowl until light and fluffy. Next beat in eggs, cornstarch and vanilla. Finally, add in your sour cream and mix everything together well.
4. Pour mixture into crust. Bake until your cheesecake is set but still slightly soft in the centre, this should take about 45 to 50 minutes. Turn off oven but don't remove the cheesecake from it. Instead, let it sit in your oven with the door ajar for 3 hours. After that refrigerate for an additional 8 hours or overnight. Makes 12 servings.

Nutritional Analysis per serving (per slice):

Calories: 227

Fibre: 14g

Fat: 6.3g

Cholesterol: 46mg

Protein: 11g

Sodium: 387mg

Carbohydrates: 31g

Calcium: 194mg



Northern

UNDER THE NORTHERN SKY

The big life of a little orphan

by Xavier Kataquapit

Can you imagine an orphan surviving in the wilderness along the James Bay coast near the turn of the last century? Can you then imagine that same orphan ending up with a family of eight children of her own, 52 grandchildren and over 50 great grandchildren? Well, that is the story of my grandmother Louise Paulmartin, who passed away July 24 at the age of 90 in Attawapiskat.

Kookoom, the Cree word for grandmother, was the name all her sons, daughters and grandchildren and great grandchildren knew her by, was born in 1916. She came into this world on the shores of Hawley Lake, which is part of the Sutton River system in Northern Ontario, or the area known in Cree as Nahmekoo Seepee. Her mother, Maggie Archibald, gave birth in a traditional setting with a mid-wife in the wilderness. In 1916, life up the coast would have been very different as it would have more closely resembled a world that our people had known for thousands of years before the arrival of Europeans.

Kookoom was born into a complex family situation. Her mother originally married a Linklater and after he died she wed John Chookomolin. When Kookoom was just eight months old during the summer of 1917 on the shores of the Attawapiskat River where her family had gathered for the summer, their father John Chookomolin left them for the last time. Her father was one of 24 young Cree men to follow a recruitment officer south to fight for Canada in the First World War.

Maggie never had the opportunity to find out what happened to her husband. Years passed and the men of Attawapiskat came home one at a time but some were never seen again, including John Chookomolin. It would be many decades later that Kookoom learned that her father had become infected with influenza during the Atlantic ship crossing and later died and was buried in southern England.

To provide for her young family, Maggie decided to marry again, this time to Jacob Edwards. When Kookoom was three years of age, life took a hard turn when her mother Maggie passed away. To make matters even worse, her step father Jacob was killed in a tragic accident soon after while building a sod roof for their home on Akamiski Island.

Kookoom ended up as an orphan during a time when survival was difficult for everyone. Relatives were not capable of feeding another person in their group on a continuous basis, so my Kookoom was moved from family to family. Eventually, she was taken into a residential school in Fort Albany.

In these early years of Catholic missionaries, religious leaders took the role of caretakers for orphans. At 16, Kookoom was put into an arranged marriage with a man she had never met. In 1932, at the old village site of Fort Albany, she married Xavier Paulmartin, a man in good standing with the Catholic missionaries and then she was passed on again to another family.

Kookoom had many stories of fear and apprehension after her marriage. She had nothing when she left Fort Albany, none of her own clothing, valuables or mementos of a previous life. Her only wedding gifts were some clothes and a sewing kit of needles, thread and cloth given to her by nuns and missionaries. She did not know where she would live, she did not really know her new husband.

Happily, she discovered that she had married into a quiet, hard-working and industrious family that found it a joy to care for her at their homestead on the shores of the Nawashi River. She joined a large family group with Xavier's parents, Maggie and George Paulmartin and their 13 sons and daughters. Kookoom was loved and strengthened by her new family, which rallied around the youngest daughter, Mary Rose, when she contracted polio and lost the use of her legs at a young age.

Two years after her marriage, Kookoom had her first daughter, Theresa and then in succeeding years, seven more children. She gave birth to all her children on the shores of the Nawashi River under the guidance of her mother-in-law Maggie Paulmartin, who acted as a mid-wife.

Kookoom's new family led a traditional nomadic life. She learned everything she knew from the Paulmartins. Kookoom picked up many of the legends, stories and traditions of our people as well as religious Catholic values and beliefs. In all, she accumulated the skills needed to provide the best for her family. In 1965, the Paulmartin family left Nawashi River for the last time to live permanently in Attawapiskat surrounded by a growing number of grandchildren.

Kookoom always remembered the hardships of her childhood and whenever her extended family suffered through difficult times, she was there to help. At different times, she took her grandchildren into her home. She was there for all of us and my brother Lawrence, my sister Janie or our cousins George and Gertie Paulmartin, who lived with her for some time.

In her later years, she began to travel and she marveled at being able to visit distant places to follow in her grandchildren's foot steps. Kookoom found it humorous to say she had been to places like Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal or Flin Flon, Manitoba.

Even though we lived through so many hardships in our community, Kookoom was a big part of something that was good in our lives. She held an important position in our family and she made sure that we were all safe and cared for. She loved my mom Susan very much.

Kookoom has gone home now and is back on the shores of the Nawashi River, with her husband Xavier and surrounded by Maggie and George Paulmartin and the entire family. Under a blue sky, surrounded by the summer bloom of a green forest, she is with her grandson Philip, granddaughter Rita and her great grandson Nicholas. Near the cool flowing waters, she sits around the fire with her parents John and Maggie as Kookoom learns more about the family she never knew.



The Iron Cree

Fitness challenge gets the adrenaline flowing

By Neil Diamond

Summer. Nemaska. Morning. The 14th annual Nemaska Fitness Challenge is off to a late start. It's probably not the first time in the 14 years so no one seems concerned. I advise, rudely, to no one in particular that a starting time be set and if any competitor isn't ready by then, then tough titties, the race starts without them.

I thought of bringing up discipline, but who am I to talk? Previous champion Jimmy Gunner is leisurely waxing the underside of a canoe, but he's not competing this year.

Steve Cheechoo is getting ready and struggling into a wetsuit for the first portion of the race — a grueling swim on the appropriately named Champion Lake. A young competitor's mom is nag-

ging him to stretch before the race. He makes a show of stretching and stops.

My niece Lorna, is still trying to find a bike to race with and debating whether to pay the entrance fee while trying to remember the canoeing lessons from the evening before. Hulking Redfern Cheezo is displaying his impressive physique to the cop on race duty and arm wrestling with a friend. Perhaps getting ready for the event to be held later. I bravely suggest he get into better shape for next year's challenge. He towers over me and says, "I'll get into shape." Whew!

Finally, it looks like the race everyone is here to see is about to start. Most of the competitors are in the lake wetting their wet-





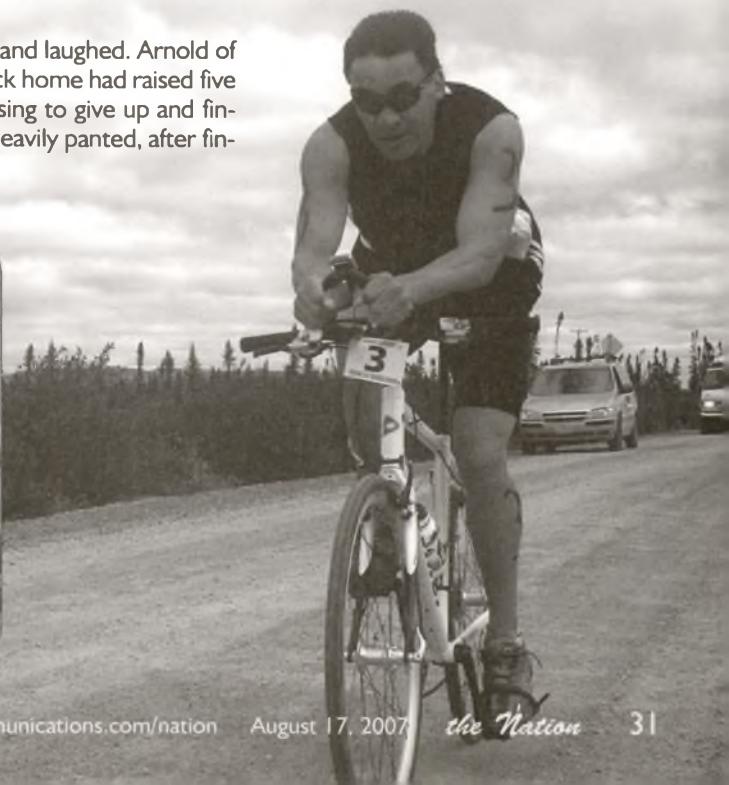
suits when they are called back to the main tent for introductions, a prayer and a minute of silence for the dearly departed. That done, the racers swim to the starting point and line up in anticipation of the starter's pistol. The constable fires a shot and the race is on.

The racers splash into the lake. In a sign of things to come, Waskaganish's Rod Blueboy, has everyone swimming in his wake as he claims a huge lead, winning the big race easily. "Swimming is the hardest part of the race," says Redfern Cheezo, "I would come out of the water feeling dizzy." He should know. He was the first out of the water back in 1997.

Rodney Hester has moved on since he helped create this race years ago. "I never thought it would keep going this long," he said later while we were waiting for a flight at Chibougamau Airport. "Who won?"

"Rod Blueboy again," I said.

We waited for the plane, smoking, and reminisced of races past and laughed. Arnold of Chisasibi, giving up a few swimstrokes into the race after his fans back home had raised five grand to bring him here. The tenacious untrained Jody House refusing to give up and finishing the race after five-and-a-half hours of hell. Jody's first words, heavily panted, after finishing, "I feel like shit!" Good times.



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11e Tournoi de Golf de l'amitié

August 24, 2007

24 août 2007



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95 Jaculet, Chibougamau, Qc. G8P 2G1

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- Assistant to makeup and hair stylist
- Drivers
- Cook
- Set builders
- Volunteers
- Extras

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Please contact:

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CLASSIFIEDS

BIRTHS - 100

Congratulations to my sister Bella Blacksmith and her boyfriend, Thomas Awashish on the birth of their son Aaron Sam. Take good care of your lil' one, with luv Charlotte, Matthew & Joylynn.

BIRTHDAYS - 101

I want to wish a Happy 3rd Birthday to my son, Charlie Niquanicappo in Whapmagoostui. His b-day is on Sept. 10, 2007. I love you with all my heart. You make my day & I hope you get all you wish for on your birthday. Love, Mommy & Daddy.

I want to wish Rachel Sheshamush, Happy belated Birthday. She turned 31 on August 3, 2007, lol, love you Rah. From Mary Niquanicappo. Also, Happy 9th Anniversary to Rachel & Bruno Sheshamush on Aug. 13, 2007. From Mary and Charlie Niquanicappo.

Happy birthday to our beautiful mother Karen Masty on Sept 13. We would like to thank you for always being there for us. Love always Amy, Leslie and Ryan.

Just wanna wish a Happy Birthday to my brother Neil. He will be celebrating his Birthday on the 19th of August. Hope your day will be special as you are.

Anyways take care of yourself and your little boy there, love you both so much. Once again, Happy Birthday, and many more to come. Love from your sister Sylvia and my kids, Matthew, Cecilia, Derwin & Brady.

I would like to wish a very speical birthday wish to my sister Esther Wapachee of Nemaska! Her special day is on August 14 and she will be turning 35..oops..I told the whole nation your age..LOL...nnawww...she's not that old..don't worry sister I won't say your age!!!..So happy birthday sister and many more to come! Love always: Charlotte.

A happy 9th belated birthday to Aiden Rupert. He celebrated his birthday on July 24th. And sending a 6th birthday wish to Derial (yoyo) Rupert on Aug. 28th. I love you guys so much. Try not to fight each other that often now that you both are getting a year older.Yoyo will also be graduating this August from kindergarten. I am so proud of you lil' man. Love always and forever, mommy/auntie Donna.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to our son/brother (Jaydrien) on Aug.17th, 2007. He will be celebrating his 8th birthday. Have fun on your special

Nation

UP-COMING SPECIAL EDITIONS

Vol. 14-22

Cover date: September 14

Deadline: August 31

Hunting Season / The Bush Camp

Vol. 14-23

Cover date: September 28

Deadline: September 14

The First Annual Green Issue

Vol. 14-26

Cover date: November 9

Deadline: October 26

The Health Issue/Diabetes Month

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CLASSIFIEDS

day. We love you so much!! Once again happy birthday to you! With love always: Mom, Dad, Jason, Jaydon and Lenny Boy.

We would like to say a Happy 8th Birthday to our little sister Paulina Angie...in Hull. On April 24, 2005. Happy Birthday Baby Girl. We love & miss you gurl!!! Hope You got all the things you wanted for your birthday. Once again Happy birthday & many more to come. From: Caroline & Wes, Stella, Stefanie & Kasen Boy! xoxoxox(K)(Chisasibi). P.S. Hope you had a special day, just as you are!

To mom Jane Trapper, another year older on August 2, 2007, you'll be 72 years old, with prayers & loving wishes on your birthday....that God will bless you with all the love & joy you deserve. Have a blessed & beautiful birthday, Mom. Love Sally.

My daughter is finally getting married!! I have to tell everyone because I am sooooo happy. She lucked in an get a nice guy. So Jackie Kingston is proud to announce the marriage of her daughter Sarah Alison to Jordan Hersca on Sept 2nd in Toronto. The date is close to the date of her mom and dads marriage ..this time lets hope for a warm sunny day!!!!

ANNIVERSARIES - 103

Happy (?th) wedding anniversary to Celina & Joseph Mianscum on July 31, 2007 and Happy Birthday, too, Celina. Two Precious Hearts, One Lifetime Love. Wishing the both of you the very best. Love your auntie in MTL, Sally

PERSONAL MESSAGES - 300

GET WELL SOON: To my friend Evadney Wapachee. Yeah, I heard the news and I'm sending you warm & bright wishes in the hope that you bloom into good health soon.

CLASSIFIEDS ARE FREE FOR EVERYONE

PERSONALS, BIRTHS, ANNIVERSARIES, MESSAGES, ETC.

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Please get well soon. From your friend Sally in Mtl.

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS - 400

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Research and Marketing Coordinator

General description

The Marketing and Research Coordinator will work under the supervision of a consortium of media organizations whose members serve minority official language communities (anglophone in Québec and francophone outside Québec).

Responsibilities

- Implement a readership and audience research program for media serving minority official language communities.
- Negotiate and manage partnerships with media organizations as well as governments.
- Manage the tendering process to research firms.
- Create a permanent marketing initiative for minority language media.

Qualities

- Able to multi-task and must be able to work independently as well as within a team.
- Bilingual - English and French.
- Previous marketing and research experience.
- Experience preparing and submitting funding applications.
- Knowledge of the Communications industry (newspapers, radio, television or ad. agencies).

Start: End of August 2007

Location: Ottawa, Ontario

Salary: \$42 000 to \$49 500

Please forward cover letter and résumé no later than **Tuesday, August 7th, 2007** to:

Research and Marketing Coordinator

c/o Executive Director

Association de la presse francophone

267 Dalhousie Street, Ottawa (ON) K1N 7E3

Ph: (613) 241-1017, Fax: (613) 241-6313

E-mail: dg@apf.ca



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Eli Moore – Conference Coordinator

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